

ECFS - Email Filing
<PROCEEDING>96-45
<DATE>02/08/2005
<NAME>Bruce Birnberg
<ADDRESS1>8213 Smithfield Ave
<ADDRESS2>
<CITY>Springfield
<STATE>VA
<ZIP>22152
<LAW-FIRM>
<ATTORNEY>
<FILE-NUMBER>
<DOCUMENT-TYPE> RC
<PHONE-NUMBER>
<DESCRIPTION>
<CONTACT-EMAIL>
<TEXT>President Bush, when running for re-election campaigned against new taxes and stated that he considered new fees to be the same as new taxes.

Telephone companies currently increase my monthly bill by over 50% because of various Federal and state fees and taxes. I do not want to see more added for my telephone service! I urge you to reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund. I am concerned that this proposal could make my current service unaffordable.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. In other words, low-volume and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as a high-volume residential or business customers. This is unfair!

I use my wireless phone for safety and security only. I don't want to lose these benefits so that big businesses can pay less than their fair share. I urge you to reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee.

Keep the USF Fair!

Sincerely,

Bruce Birnberg
8213 Smithfield Ave
Springfield, Virginia 22152-3054